

**Australian Speleological Federation
Publication of Cave-Related Material Code**

Adopted by Council: 4-Jan-2020

The publication of information regarding caves can be a sensitive issue. ASF encourages the publication of cave-related material, however, the pros and cons of publishing any such material should be considered prior to publication. The following code shall be followed when considering and preparing material for publication by ASF.

1. All material shall be honest and accurate, and shall avoid sensationalism and exaggeration.
2. Material shall not contain any libellous or defamatory matter, or any copyright infringement, or confidential material, or material which could be misleading or contribute to rumour.
3. All material shall fairly acknowledge the contributions of others, either as clubs or individuals, as published work or as personal communication.
4. Careful consideration shall be given before publishing any material which discloses a cave's location, its nature, or its content. This consideration shall cover the intended audience, the wishes of the landowner and/or management authority, and the possible effect on the cave.
5. Authors shall liaise with, and consider the wishes of, relevant stakeholders including individuals and societies or clubs who frequent the area, and land owners and land managers.
6. Authors shall be mindful of the intended publication platform, its circulation, and the ease with which digital publications can be disseminated.